

# EXHIBIT C

June 24, 2013

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

re: U.S. v. Mark L. Kamholz, 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny:

My name is Thomas Cizdziel. I am submitting this letter of character on behalf of Mark L. Kamholz. I was born and raised in the Buffalo area and currently live in West Seneca, NY. I am an Electrical Controls Engineer with Applied Sciences Group in Buffalo, NY. I have known Mark since 1988 when his family moved in to their current residence in West Seneca across the street from my family.

Mark, his wife Sandy, two sons Jeremy and Jordan, have been my neighbors and friends since the day we met. Mark is a friendly and kind person, he is an ideal neighbor. His sons graduated college and have their own successful landscaping, snowplowing, and construction business. We have never had an argument or dispute. He has always been willing to help my family in times of need. He has taken care of our house when we have gone away on vacation. Mark and his sons have voluntarily helped me dig out after snow storms. As my parents have aged, Mark has helped me by looking in on them while I was away from home. One day, when I was at work, Mark observed my father up on a ladder cleaning the gutters. Mark came over, concerned for my father's safety, and completed the job for him. I was unemployed during the recent recession and Mark provided me with help in my job search. Mark is willing to offer assistance without expecting anything in return.

Respectfully yours,

Thomas Cizdziel 

June 19, 2013

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: U.S. v. Mark L. Kamholz, 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretney:

When Mark Kamholz asked me to write a character reference for him, I was honored. My name is James Driscoll. I am an Electrical Contractor and I run my own company. I have been a personal friend of Mark's since the early 1980's. I originally met Mark and his family at Allegany State Park at a religious family retreat. The whole purpose of this retreat was for families to spend quality time together. Mark, along with his parents, used to go to the retreat on a yearly basis. As Mark grew up and married, he would bring his wife, Sandy and his two boys. To this day Mark and his family continue their yearly family retreats.

Over the thirty plus years that I have known Mark, I have come to realize, he is someone we can all count on. Mark has helped me through my own difficult times in the past. He has always been there for me and I can rely on his support. He was best man at my wedding. He helped me build my home in the country over several years. He has always been and remains a good friend to me.

I have watched Mark and his wife Sandy raise their two sons, Jeremy and Jordan. As his sons were growing up, Mark would spend his time taking them to hockey practice at all hours of the morning, and coach the team as well. Then there was the soccer. Mark spent countless hours involved with the boy's practices, games and tournaments, always thinking of his family first. Once the boy came-of-age, there were hunting trips they took together and to this day still enjoy. He is so proud of the fact that they both graduated from college and currently run their own successful business. Family means everything to Mark.

I would ask the courts to consider leniency in its sentencing. Mark truly understands the severity of this case. I believe that a prison term would serve as a tremendous hardship for his wife and sons. Mark is a good man, one who has characteristics of honesty and integrity. A hard-working family man will be seriously affected by the outcome of your decision.

Respectfully yours,

// James F. Driscoll

Honorable William M Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202.

Mr. and Mrs. James Duffey

RE: U.S. v. Mark L. Kamholz, 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny:

My name is James Duffey, and on behalf of my wife Maureen, we are submitting this letter on behalf of our friend Mark Kamholz. I am a retired Recreation Supervisor for the Town of West Seneca Senior Citizens, and my wife is a retired Teacher –Aid for the HSBC Child Care Center.

I became acquainted with Mark through my wife's friendship with his wife Sandy and her sister Sue Noel. Thus, we have been good friends with Mark and his family for the past six years.

In the spring of 2010, we hired Marks' sons Jeremy and Jordan to replace our driveway and most of our sidewalk, not because they are the sons of our friends, or because they undercut the completion. We hired them because of the quality of the work they do, and because of the honesty and integrity that has been instilled in them through Mark and his wife Sandy. Further, I have witnessed first-hand Mark and Sandys' support of their sons and also of their friends when they invited us to their home in West Seneca and their summer cottage in Ellicottville.

Certainly in the future my wife Maureen and I plan to maintain our friendship with Mark and his family. He is a "true" friend of ours.

Respectfully Yours, \_\_\_\_\_

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Jeffrey L. Haxton

June 18, 2013

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Chief Judge Skretny:

Re: U.S. V. Mark L. Kamholz, 10-CR-219

I am writing this letter on behalf of Mark Kamholz. I have known Mr. Kamholz or "coach Mark" since I was a young teenager about 15 years ago. Mr. Kamholz coached me in youth hockey for many years where he always taught me to play hard but more importantly have fun and build comradely with my teammates.

Mr. Kamholz has been a great influence on me and many others around me. He has always been very caring and compassionate especially with my mother. My mother was diagnosed with an aggressive form of Multiple Sclerosis 25 years ago and has been in assisted living facility and a nursing home for the past 10 years. Mr. Kamholz always asks about her, lets me know he is thinking about her and wishes her the best. Mr. Kamholz was always very helpful in any transportation I would need for hockey or any other event, since rides were difficult to obtain during my teenage years due to our situation this was a big help!

I have always tried to surround my-self with great people because I strongly believe that you become who you associate with. From my college years as a student clerk at the United States Attorney's office, to my classmates at the University at Buffalo, to today where I am Financial Planner at a family owned investment firm. Mr. Kamholz is one of those great people I have been lucky enough to have in my life. He has been a great influence on me going through college and starting off in my business career. He is always there to give great advice or lend a helping hand with anything from mechanical or construction matters to financial or business matters.

I would like to thank you for your time and consideration in reading this letter. Please consider all the great things Mr. Kamholz has done in his life and in my life when imposing the sentence upon Mr. Kamholz. He is a great man in an unfortunate situation.

Respectfully yours,

Jeffrey L. Haxton

*Christopher Koehler*

June 16, 2013


Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: U.S. v. Mark L. Kamholz, 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Mr. Mark Kamholz. I have been a very close friend with Mr. Kamholz's children for over 15 years. Mr. Kamholz had also served as my hockey coach for most of my adolescence. I am currently serving as a United States Border Patrol Agent in Tucson, Arizona and have held this position since August 2009.

The motto of The Border Patrol is "Honor First". After hearing this for the first time at the academy I knew the meaning of the phrase before my instructor even attempted to explain it because of the way Mr. Kamholz raised his sons and coached me. Mr. Kamholz has taught me many things in my life and he always did so with an educated mindset and a level head. One example of this is that while he was my hockey coach he helped to implement new schemes and plays. This may seem relatively commonplace but any teacher, coach, or parent would certainly tell you that they would have given up on trying to teach these things to a seventeen year old boy but Mr. Kamholz is passionate about everything that he does and his coaching style was no different. Because of his persistence our team accomplished something that no other team has been capable of in the history of the league by completing a 29-0 season and a league championship. Mr. Kamholz has taught me many life lessons that have helped me get to where I am now and I'm sure that the lessons he has taught me will continue to mold my life and career. One of the lessons that has directly affected my career is that he taught me how to shoot my first firearm. I feel as though this is one of the lessons that has helped me become the person I am now. As with anything else, Mr. Kamholz taught me this skill with an educated and meticulous demeanor. He understands the importance of the safety of others and took this very serious while teaching me this life skill that I could be tasked with using on any given day. I am truly thankful for what he has shown me in my life and I look forward to continuing to learn from him.

Respectfully yours, 

Christopher D. Koehler

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Case Number: 10-CR-219

Case Name: United States of America v. Mark L. Kamholz

Your Honor Chief Judge Skretny:

I have known Mark Kamholz and the Kamholz family for over ten years. I had the honor of meeting Mr. Kamholz through his two sons Jeremy Kamholz and Jordan Kamholz. I had attended both high school and college with Jeremy and Jordan and was able to see firsthand what a caring and concerned father Mark was then and still is now. If nothing else the fact that his two sons have turned into such exceptional men is a great credit to Mr. Kamholz and his moral fiber.

The first time I had met Mr. Kamholz was at a high school hockey game that I had attended to watch his boys play in. Not only was he there to support and root on his sons he was there to guide them in their quest to become the best athletes they could be. Mr. Kamholz was behind the bench for many of their games. He was able to guide them with the knowledge of a coach and encouragement of a father. He was stern when necessary but always supportive and heartening to their talents. He has always put his children's best interests first.

I feel very privileged to see and hear the advice that was given to Jeremy and Jordan as they have grown up, even more so when I've had the benefit to receive advice from Mr. Kamholz myself. He has always been interested in the development of my career. I would say that I would not be the accomplished young professional I am today without his guidance. I am on my third internal promotion at First Niagara Bank N.A. after being employed there for only 4 years. When faced with a large decision that could potentially affect my career profile I always felt comfortable reaching out to Mark. He was

never judgmental, always listened to the situation as a whole and gave sound logical and rational recommendations. It is because of him that I have gained the opportunities that I have in my professional career.

In closing Mark Kamholz has always and will always be a role model for myself. Mark is a mentor, an example of a man who was able to balance work and family, and maintain a valid moral compass. I give Mr. Kamholz credit for my success as a young professional and the highest of recommendations.

Respectfully yours,



Mary Grace Lichtenberger



Paul Montante

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: United States v. Mark Kamholz, 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny:

My name is Paul Montante. I have a Bachelor of Science in History from SUNY Brockport and a Master of Science in Adolescent Education from Canisius College. I am currently a class aide for preschool autistic students at Buffalo Hearing and Speech Clinic. Prior to my time as a class aide I was a teacher at Gateway-Longview from December 2010 to January 2013. I am writing to you today in full support of Mark Kamholz.

I know Mr. Kamholz through his two sons, Jordan and Jeremy, whom I have been friends with since 2008 and are my current roommates. When I first met Mr. Kamholz he took a keen interest in my life and character (just as every responsible parent should). Throughout the years our interactions and conversations have grown increasingly. Our conversations about sports, politics, and life have helped mold my opinions and perspectives to what they are today. Though our opinions may not always agree, Mr. Kamholz will always hear what I have to say and take it into account. Mr. Kamholz has also been able to offer advice and support in my professional career. Earlier this year, while I was going through a tough point in my profession, Mr. Kamholz offered advice that allowed me to move forward and to move on.

I have and will continue to support Mr. Kamholz during this time in his life.

Sincerely,

Paul Montante

Phillip J. Sparacino

July 22, 2013

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, New York 14202

re: U.S. v. Mark L. Kamholz, 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny:

I have known Mark Kamholz and have been a friend of the family for over 20 years. I have been invited to share many family dinners and on one occasions he extended an invitation for my sister and family who live out of town to also join in the family meal. Following a 20 year Air Force career, I worked as National Director of Admissions for DeVry University and have over 30 years in the education field. I consider Mark a true friend. As our relationship has grown over time and over so many life milestones, so has my understanding of the core values he uses to set his moral compass. Mark is a straight shooter and it does not take long to realize the dedication, love and loyalty Mark has for his wife and children. During my frequent visits to Buffalo I have watched Mark as he gave sage advice to his two sons whose entrepreneurial success is molded after their father and his values and his expertise. One need only speak to his sons to learn of the high esteem and adoration they have for their father. It is a relationship that has been significant and the center of their young lives...and it has only grown in magnitude as Mark took part not only in all of their school activities, sporting events and social activities, but also in the many poignant milestones that turn young boys into solid, upstanding and good men. I was with Mark as he put in long hours soon after the passing of his Mother-in-law, cleaning out the house she lived in and helping to settle the estate. He is a tireless individual who will give his all to help someone in need.

He is a church going member who along with his wife Sandra, has participated in many community and civic events. On many of his frequent visits to my house he would talk for hours with pride about his sons, about his plans for the future, his solid marriage and his work. It is not difficult for one to detect the sincerity and genuineness with which he approaches all his projects, plans and goals. Mark epitomizes all that is good in helping those less fortunate or in need.

Perhaps the single most important lesson one takes away when talking with Mark is the pride he has in having completed over 30 years working for the same firm. He too like many others had dreams and goals for the future that have been placed on hold for over three years, yet he continues to work, guide

his family and strives to do his very best in all he undertakes. How does one do justice to Mark in using a letter to convey the true character of a man and what he represents? It is difficult if not impossible. His integrity and firm beliefs are hard to capsule on paper but one need only spend some time with Mark to understand his true core values.

I guess in conclusion I would state that I would not have undertaken this letter did I not feel that Mark has suffered in silence during this long three year ordeal and yet has somehow managed to maintain his ability to lead his wife and sons with dignity and self-worth. When I was asked to write this letter I was eager to put my thoughts on paper but soon realized that it was difficult to show the true soul of a man who has lived his life helping others, by merely using a letter to do so. I am appreciative for the opportunity to put my thoughts on paper and hope that my genuine feelings of caring and admiration come through. I feel truly blessed to count Mark as one of my best friends.

Respectfully yours,



Philip J. Sparacino

6-20-13

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, N.Y. 14202

re: U.S. v Mark L Kamholz 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny,  
Hello Sir. My name is  
Sandra Szyperanski. I'm  
writing to you on behalf  
of Mark Kamholz. I met  
him about 24 years ago at  
the restaurant where I  
work. He's been coming in  
for lunch a couple of days  
a week and it's been a  
pleasure to see him. Even  
when I goof up his order  
(rarely) he's as calm as  
could be and just waits  
patiently. He'll kid me

about it, but that's just  
Mark and it makes my  
day. I wish you could  
know him the way I do.  
He's a kind, loving and  
considerate man. I've  
never known him to say  
a cross word or ever look  
at anyone with distaste.  
Please take into consideration  
what a gentle man he  
is when he is being  
sentenced. Thank you very  
much for your time and  
have a wonderful day.

Respectfully yours,

SANDRA L. SZCZEPANSKI

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, New York 14202

June 30, 2013

Re : U.S. v Mark I. Kamholz 10 – CR – 219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny,

I am submitting this letter on behalf of Mark Kamholz. My first contact with the Kamholz family was back in 1983 when my brother served as Associate Pastor of Epiphany United Church of Christ. It was at this church where I had the pleasure of meeting Ruth Kamholz, a lifetime member of the congregation. Ruth would often talk of her son Mark, his devotion to her, and to his Father. Ruth rarely missed a bible study, church function or pot luck dinner, and as she aged and eventually suffered the loss of her husband in 1986, she counted on Mark for everything.

In 1990, I was looking into a business opportunity, and met a woman named Suzanne Noel. We discovered fairly early on that we had a connection, as she had been married at Epiphany by my brother (Rev. Jeffrey S. Dick), and her sister was married to Mark Kamholz. A close friendship with Suzanne grew that continues today. This is where my relationship to Mark and his family began.

My husband Philip and I have known Mark and his wife Sandra for thirteen years. Our children are the same ages, and our interests in community events, sports, church, music and family are similar. Mark has been a role model to his sons Jeremy and Jordan and a devoted husband to Sandra. I have personally witnessed his behavior with others many times. He is kind, patient, honorable, compassionate and humble. Mark has always led by example, and his boys have benefitted greatly by his devotion to them. He encouraged them to do well in school, to get a college education, and both are now successful businessmen here in Buffalo. My husband and I have attended many fundraisers, sport events and special family events with Mark. My respect for him has never wavered.

Respectfully yours,

Charmaine L. Then

Mrs. Mary Ann Werner

Honorable William M. Skretny  
United States Chief Judge  
Western District of New York  
2 Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: U.S.V. Mark L. Kamholz, 10-CR-219

Dear Chief Judge Skretny:

Please be advised that I am submitting a character reference letter on behalf of Mark L. Kamholz. I have been a close neighbor of Marks for 15 years. I am also the bookkeeper at Ebenezer United Church of Christ where the Kamholz family is members.

As a neighbor I can truly say that I have seen his true character in the development of his two sons. We have been associated with the boys as our paper carrier on to a landscaping business they now own. The boy's outstanding character was instilled by their dad. Mark was always involved in their activities in school as well as helping them get started in their business. You could always see Mark out with the boys helping whenever needed.

I do know Mark is the kind of person that learns from mistakes and would do whatever possible to move forward.

As a neighbor we all admire the well-adjusted family he has due to his professional experiences, business accomplishments, spiritual guidance and all around likeable person. He has always been willing to share whatever expertise he has with others.

In closing I truly hope his true character as an individual has a strong bearing on his sentencing.

Respectfully yours,

Mary Ann Werner